

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed July 12, 2007, the Examiner's claim rejections have been considered. Applicant respectfully traverses all rejections regarding all pending claims and earnestly solicits allowance of these claims.

1. Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6-8, and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Burnside *et al.* (US 2003/0064815 A1). Claims 6-8 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. For the sake of brevity, the rejections of the independent claims 1 and 13 are discussed in detail on the understanding that the dependent claims are also patentably distinct over the prior art, as they depend directly from their respective independent claims. Nevertheless, the dependent claims include additional features that, in combination with those of the independent claims, provide further, separate and independent bases for patentability.

Applicant respectfully submits that Burnside does not anticipate the claimed invention because Burnside does not disclose a gaming machine having a power supply that "includes switched and unswitched connections" as recited in claim 1. With respect to independent claim 13, Applicant respectfully submits that Burnside does not anticipate the claimed invention because Burnside does not disclose "a distribution means [that] electrically disconnects a first portion of the distribution means when the power supply is turned off while a second portion of the distribution means remains electrically connected." According to the claimed invention, power may be selectively turned off to a subset of the components. As a result, for example, the main processor board does not need to be powered down and later rebooted when low security components, such as lights or video displays, are serviced.

In sharp contrast, Burnside merely discloses that a power module has a single on/off switch. (See, ¶18). When the power module is turned off, all the components connected to the power module are turned off. Burnside does not disclose the selective powering down of various components. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Burnside does not anticipate claims 1, 6-8, and 12-13 and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

2. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-5, 9-11, and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burnside *et al.* as applied to claims above, and further in view of Stockdale *et al.* (US 6,804,763 B1). Claims 9-11 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Applicant notes that claims 2-7 and 14-17 are dependent claims that depend from independent claims 1 and 13, respectively. In light of the arguments submitted in Section 1 of this response, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 2-7 and 14-17 are not obvious in view of the combination of Burnside *et al.* and Stockdale *et al.* because these references, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the claimed limitations. Moreover, these dependent claims further recite and define the claimed invention, and thus, are independently patentable. In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 2-7 and 14-17 have been overcome.

CONCLUSION


Applicant has made an earnest and *bona fide* effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all of claims 1-5 and 13-20 is believed to be in order, and a timely Notice of Allowance to this effect is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fees indicated in the Fee Transmittal, any additional fee(s) or underpayment of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, or to credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 194293, Deposit Account Name STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the foregoing, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (310) 734-3200. The undersigned attorney can normally be reached Monday through Friday from about 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM Pacific Time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Andrew B. Chen
Reg. No. 48,508
STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
2121 Avenue of the Stars
Suite 2800
Los Angeles, CA 90067
Tel 310.734.3200
Fax 310.734.3300